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HEALTHY MARKETS

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PLANNED BUDGET: \$15,000,000

With significant growth in Vietnam's economy and increased incomes, there is increased willingness to pay for health-related goods and services, such as high quality condoms, and other health products and services. As the Government of Vietnam (GVN) works to develop a more sustainable response to the HIV epidemic, innovative approaches are needed to ensure sustained access to HIV-related commodities and services.

Healthy Markets works with the GVN and other stakeholders to improve access to HIV prevention, testing, and treatment, in order to achieve the country's 90-90-95 targets. It aims to grow a viable market for HIV-related goods and services capable of meeting the needs of populations facing the greatest risks – men who have sex with men (MSM), transgender women, people who inject drugs, and female sex workers.

INCREASING HIV TESTING THROUGH INNOVATION

Healthy Markets works through community-based organizations in urban and hard-to-reach rural hot spots. It has introduced HIV community based lay providers and self-testing. Trained lay providers use a single rapid HIV diagnostic test to screen at-risk populations, facilitate diagnosis, and link confirmed cases to treatment. HIV self-testing further increases options for those who may be reluctant to get an HIV test. Since December 2015, 100,655 people have been tested, with 4,528 diagnosed with HIV, and 94.3 percent of those diagnosed enrolled in ART. These newer testing modalities have been effective in reaching young key populations who are considered very high risk. HIV lay and self-testing are now available in fifteen provinces, and the Ministry of Health (MOH) has launched national guidelines on community-based testing.

ACCELERATING HIV PREVENTION

MOH and Healthy Markets offer oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to populations at substantial risk of HIV through private clinics. Between March 2017 and September 2018, 1,831 people enrolled in PrEP with a retention rate of 76 percent. As a result, and with additional PEPFAR support, MOH has made a public commitment to scale-up PrEP nationwide.

GROWING A LOCAL SUPPLY OF HIV COMMODITIES

Healthy Markets is facilitating a transition from free and subsidized HIV commodities, funded by donors, to a local, sustainable market by providing technical assistance and fostering partnerships. More than 58 million condoms and seven million special syringes to prevent transmission of HIV among injecting drug users have been sold at commercial prices.

Photo: PATH